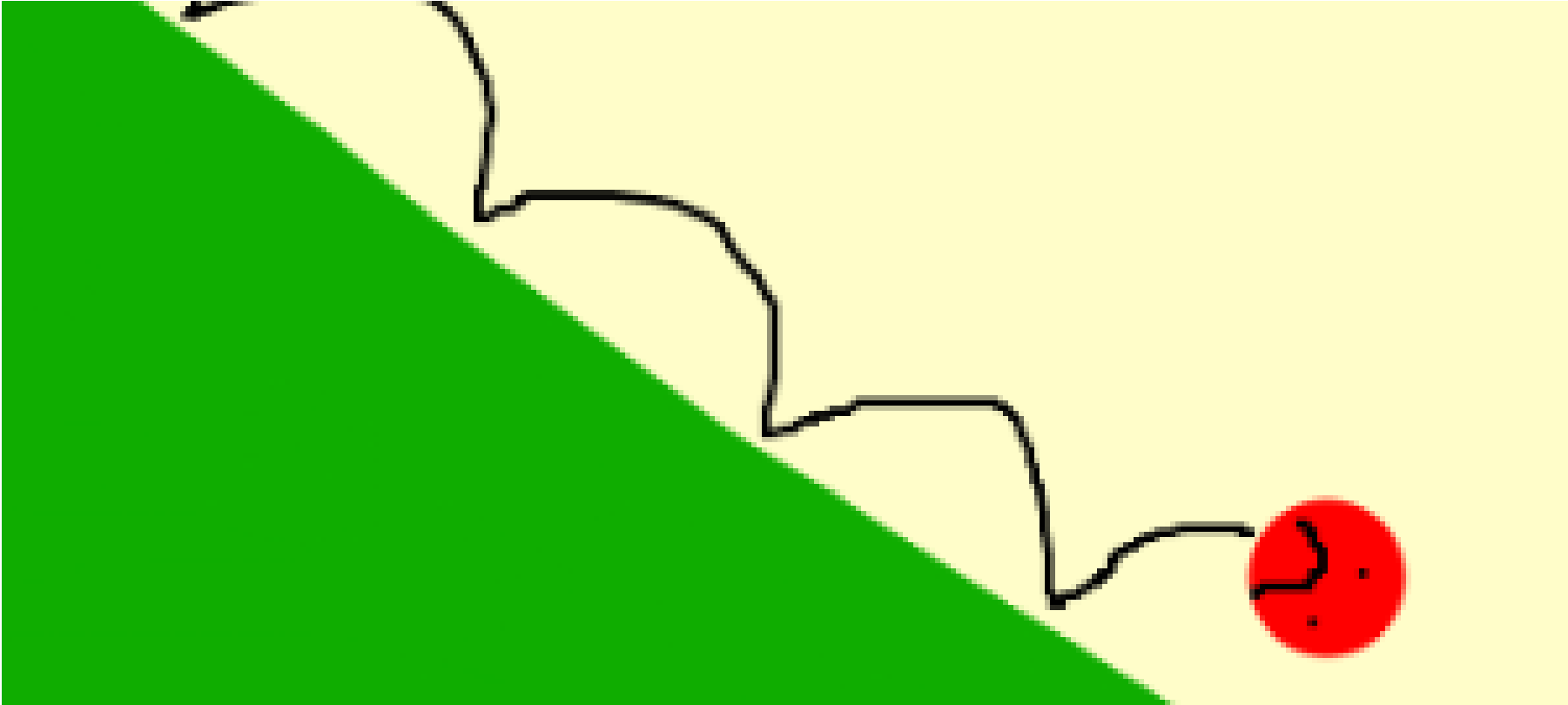




Recovery Coach Program





Recovery?



Recovery

Many different paths



➤ Abstinence



➤ Harm Reduction



➤ Medically Assisted Treatment



2017 NATIONAL SUMMARY REPORT



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- ▶ Many Medicaid programs require individuals to abstain from use for a specified timeframe prior to starting treatment.
- ▶ Others require individuals to submit to screening or attest to maintaining abstinence during treatment, or require providers to counsel patients on substance use and in some cases, refer active users for treatment (a category this report calls “Screening and Counseling”).
- ▶ These common restrictions on care undermine the recommendations of the AASLD/ISDA that are widely recognized as the standard of care.
- ▶ Current research shows that people who inject drugs achieve similar cure rates (sustained virologic response) as compared to patients who do not use drugs.¹⁰
- ▶ Additionally, injection drug use is the foremost driving factor in the perpetuation of the HCV epidemic within the United States.
- ▶ As the AASLD/ISDA guidance notes, “testing and linkage to care combined with the treatment of HCV infection with potent interferon-free regimens [DAAs] has the potential to dramatically decrease HCV incidence and prevalence.”
- ▶ postponing access to care for people who use substances or otherwise do not maintain sobriety not only allows the health of these individuals to deteriorate, but also undermines public health efforts to end the HCV epidemic